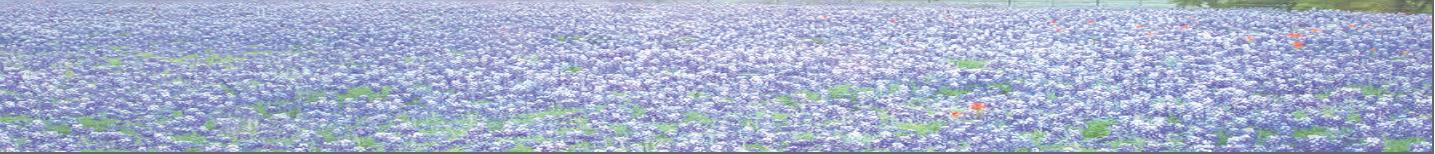


VOLUNTEER SERVICES NEWSLETTER

To the world you might be one person, but to one person you might be the world.



Volume 1, Issue 3

December 2012

From the Director's desk...

Special points of interest:

- From the Director's Desk
- Did You Know?
- Volunteer Services Statistics
- Volunteer Spotlight

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Please allow me to take this opportunity to introduce myself to all of you. My name is Stacie Woods, your new Director of Volunteer Services. It is my pleasure to have joined Volunteer Services. I consider myself fortunate to have been given this opportunity to join a department with such a fine reputation for its professionalism and kindness to those who give back so much.

This position offers new and exciting challenges to me, all of which I am looking forward to. While I am new to

Volunteer Services I am an 11 year veteran of the TDCJ and I have worked for Rehabilitation Programs Division for over 5 years. Prior to coming to Volunteer Services, my background entailed supervising offender programs such as the InnerChange Program at the Vance Unit, the Gang Renunciation- GRAD Program at the Ellis and Ramsey Units, as well as the Darrington Seminary Program. I look forward to this new position where my responsibilities will include recruiting and training new volunteers, while retain-

ing the more than 21,600 that we already have. I am quite anxious to get started with these new challenges.

On my off-time you may run into me at a unit serving as a TDCJ approved volunteer, as I have been such for more than 5 years. I facilitate Toastmasters at the Wynne Unit and paint faces at A Day With Dad and Angel Tree at the Vance Unit. God bless you all in your various projects and please do not hesitate to contact me if only to say hello!

Stacie Woods



Volunteer Spotlight

For the month of December we would like to spotlight the volunteer efforts of TDCJ approved volunteer Danny McGilberry. Danny is a resident of Huntsville, a retired business owner as well as a retired TDCJ employee.

Danny has served as a TDCJ volunteer for more than 20 years. He has been an active member at Huntsville's Kingdom Hall located on Hwy 30 for 36 years. Every Monday night Danny conducts the primary worship service for the Jehovah's Witness offenders housed at the Wynne Unit. He has also served as a volunteer

on four other units. When asked what he most enjoys about volunteering with the TDCJ he stated, "I like to teach the incarcerated men about how the Bible can help to change their lives." Danny serves as a volunteer with his church in many different aspects such as building new Kingdom Halls, assisting in the repairs and restoration of member's homes after natural disasters such as Hurricane's Rita and Ike.

When Danny is not volunteering he enjoys hunting and going on vacations to Colorado with his wife of 38

years, Carol Ann McGilberry. Danny and Carol Ann have four children and six grandchildren. On behalf of the TDCJ we would like to thank Danny for his significant role in assisting TDCJ in accomplishing our mission in promoting positive change in offender behavior and in preparing them for release to our communities.

THANK YOU!

Did You Know?

- Did you know that the TDCJ values your input? We would like to encourage volunteers to give their opinions to improving your experience and efforts in assisting the TDCJ in accomplishing our mission. On the Rehabilitation Programs Division–Volunteer Services Program webpage you will find a link to the **Volunteer Program Assessment/Suggestion Form**, by completing this form you can let us know how to better improve our practices.
- Did you know that it is a good practice when bringing **approved devotional items** onto a unit to type a list of the items. Provide a copy of the list to the searching officer and retain a copy for yourself to be kept with you while on the unit. This will allow for the searching officer to check off the items when you are entering and leaving the facility. **Remember** to always get prior approval before bringing items onto a unit.



Volunteer Services Statistical Report

October 2012

	SEP	OCT
Special Volunteers		
Visits Made	1,467	1,819
Hours Served	4,803	8,405
Offender Contacts	65,542	68,163
Approved Volunteers		
Visits Made	12,957	14,887
Hours Served	39,625	54,528
Offender Contacts	684,854	777,731
Total Approved Volunteers		
Chaplaincy	19,202	19,460
Parole	138	200
Substance Abuse Program	1,646	1,685
Sex Offender Program	5	5
Victim Services	10	10
Windham School District	128	130
Application Summary		
Applications Received	594	646

FINDING JOBS FOR EX-OFFENDERS PROGRAM

The Goodwill Industries of Houston now offers the FEXO program to help ex-offenders get their lives back on track. It offers training for a career, assistance in finding and keeping a job and connects with other important services such as housing and medical care. This program is funded by a grant from the US Department of Labor's Employment and Training Administration.

Goodwill Industries of Houston
3000 Richmond Ave., Ste. 355
Houston, Texas 77098
832-900-7455
www.goodwillhouston.org

Changing Lives through the Power of Work

Coffield Unit– Marriage Seminar

November 16-18

“My husband and I had an amazing weekend together...these seminars have been a blessing not only to our marriage, but our lives and most importantly to our souls...**Johnny and Betty Moffit** and their volunteers are a huge blessing to couples affected by incarceration”

- written by a wife of a participant

CHAPLAINCY NEWS

Rehabilitation Programs Division just completed their Annual 2012 Unit Chaplain’s Training. We would like to thank the more than 10 agency directors for participating in this year’s training.

The 4-day training covered various topics and allowed for Unit Chaplains to enjoy fellowship together. Some of the more unique topics covered were:

- Mission Minded Leadership
- Professional Chaplains
- Religious Land Use and Institutionalized Person Act
- Impact of Criminal Victimization on Victims
- Working with Criminal Thinking
- Motivational Interviewing

Do you have a suggestion for the newsletter?

We want this newsletter to be inviting, entertaining, and informative so let us know what you want to see.

Send your suggestions to :
volunteerservices@tdcj.state.tx.us

We look forward to hearing from you!

